

Minutes
Native American Landscape Subcommittee
May 22, 2002
D-Q University

Attending:

Kathy Wallace, CIBA
Cassandra Hensher, CIBA
Larry Shields, CT
Karen Nissen, CT
Kathleen Sartorius, CT

Minutes for 2/19/02 meeting approved.

The reason to name this the Landscape Subcommittee is that the focus is on plants and areas as they were traditionally used.

The agenda topic was “**Develop Guidelines for working with Indians on Landscape and native plant issues**”. The focus of this meeting was working with Maintenance.

What is the committee trying to accomplish?

Overall objective is to protect and plant/replant native plants that can be used by Native Americans.

The objectives as they relate to Maintenance are as follows:

- Preserve and protect native plants in the R/W.
- Avoid herbicide spraying of plants/areas used by Native Americans. Work with Native Americans to identify specific sites.
- Facilitate gathering, including customizing permit process.

When gathering areas are identified by Native Americans there must be a process for conveying this information to Maintenance. Larry stated that each district has a district vegetation management team (DVMT). The District Native American Coordinators (DNAC) or other environmental staff could be part of this team. The DVMT can incorporate Native American needs into the district vegetation management plan. The following could be addressed by the DMVT:

- Identification of areas of importance to Native Americans
- Working together to develop plans for managing gathering sites with safety concerns, i.e. need to clear around signs and guardrail.
- Timing mowing to allow gathering.
- Burning or mowing to manage plant growth and health.
- Managing without herbicides in gathering sites.
- Using CCC or other groups to manage sites.
- Ways of identifying plants, i.e. pictures.

The discussion of the Permit process for roadside gathering included the following.

- Permits need to cover a stretch of road not just one site.
- Permits must be for a year or more.
- Possibly giving safety training at remote locations.
- In areas where material are scarce, may need to gather on freeway R/W.

Action items

- Tina coordinate with DNACs suggesting input to district vegetation management plan.
- Cassandra to bring ESA form used by District 10 to next meeting.

Agenda for next meeting

The group would like to discuss coordination with project development.